



Комісія Людських та Громадянських Прав – Commission on Human and Civil Rights

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George W. Bush
President of the United States of America
The White House
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22 January 2005

Honourable Sir,

We are writing to you in the matter of Mr. John Demjanjuk of Cleveland, Ohio, who has been stripped of his US citizenship and is facing deportation from the United States, where he has lived for most of his life. Mr. Demjanjuk was in the past accused of being a notorious guard called "Ivan the Terrible" in the Nazi concentration camp in Treblinka during World War Two. He was deported to stand trial in Israel on these charges, but was acquitted by the Supreme Court of Israel. He returned to his home in the United States, and his US citizenship was reinstated. Subsequently he was accused of being a guard at another Nazi camp during WWII, his citizenship was again revoked and he is facing the possibility of being deported from the US.

Mr. Demjanjuk has steadfastly denied that he was a concentration camp guard during WWII, and past accusations to this effect have proven to be false. All these proceedings against him have taken many years and have been a great burden on Mr. Demjanjuk and his family. The United States is a country, which subscribes to the principle that a person is innocent unless proven guilty. Mr. Demjanjuk has not been convicted of any crime in any court anywhere, and poses no threat to anyone in the United States or elsewhere. Mr. Demjanjuk's alleged transgression against US law is misrepresentation in the course of immigrating to the US after WWII. In this context, the treatment that he has received at the hands of the US authorities can be characterised as cruel and unusual punishment for deeds that do not warrant such treatment.

Given Mr. Demjanjuk's advanced age, his many years of law-abiding residency in the United States, the absence of convictions of any crimes and the severe consequences that deportation to a foreign country would have for him and his family, we appeal to you to grant clemency to Mr. Demjanjuk on humanitarian grounds, and to allow him to stay in the United States.

Sincerely yours,

Jurij Darewych
Chairman